

(c) *Other definitions.* The following definitions also apply to this part:

Existing program that has demonstrated its capacity for providing interpreter training services means an established program with—

(1) A record of training interpreters who are serving the deaf and deaf-blind communities; and

(2) An established curriculum that is suitable for training interpreters.

Individual who is deaf means an individual who has a hearing impairment of such severity that the individual must depend primarily upon visual modes, such as sign language, lip reading, and gestures, or reading and writing to facilitate communication.

Individual who is deaf-blind means an individual—

(1)(i) Who has a central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with corrective lenses, or a field defect such that the peripheral diameter of visual field subtends an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees, or a progressive visual loss having a prognosis leading to one or both of these conditions;

(ii) Who has a chronic hearing impairment so severe that most speech cannot be understood with optimum amplification, or a progressive hearing loss having a prognosis leading to this condition; and

(iii) For whom the combination of impairments described in paragraphs (1)(i) and (ii) of this definition causes extreme difficulty in attaining independence in daily life activities, achieving psychosocial adjustment, or obtaining a vocation;

(2) Who, despite the inability to be measured accurately for hearing and vision loss due to cognitive or behavioral constraints, or both, can be determined through functional and performance assessment to have severe hearing and visual disabilities that cause extreme difficulty in attaining independence in daily life activities, achieving psychosocial adjustment, or obtaining vocational objectives; or

(3) Who meets any other requirements that the Secretary may prescribe.

Interpreter for individuals who are deaf means a qualified professional who uses sign language skills, cued speech, or

oral interpreting skills, as appropriate to the needs of individuals who are deaf, to facilitate communication between individuals who are deaf and other individuals.

Interpreter for individuals who are deaf-blind means a qualified professional who uses tactile or other manual language or fingerspelling modes, as appropriate to the needs of individuals who are deaf-blind, to facilitate communication between individuals who are deaf-blind and other individuals.

Qualified professional means an individual who has either—

(1) Met existing national or state certification or evaluation requirements; or

(2) Successfully demonstrated equivalent interpreting skills through prior work experience.

(Authority: 29 U.S.C. 711(c) and 771a(f); 29 U.S.C 1905)

§ 396.5 What activities may the Secretary fund?

The Secretary provides assistance for projects that provide training in interpreting skills for persons preparing to serve, and persons who are already serving, as interpreters for individuals who are deaf and as interpreters for individuals who are deaf-blind in public and private agencies, schools, and other service-providing institutions.

(Authority: 29 U.S.C. 771a(f))

Subpart B [Reserved]

Subpart C—How Does One Apply for an Award?

§ 396.20 What must be included in an application?

Each applicant shall include in the application—

(a) A description of the manner in which the proposed interpreter training program will be developed and operated during the five-year period following the award of the grant;

(b) A description of the geographical area to be served by the project;

(c) A description of the applicant's capacity or potential for providing training for interpreters for individuals who are deaf and interpreters for individuals who are deaf-blind;